

We claim:

1. A method of filtering an SMS message sent from an originating terminal to a subscriber terminal in a wireless communications network comprising:
 - providing subscriber-provided authorization criteria;
 - determining authorization of the originating terminal for sending the SMS message to the subscriber terminal using the authorization criteria;
 - and
 - filtering the SMS message based on the determining step.
2. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the determining step comprises determining the originating terminal is not authorized for sending an SMS message to the subscriber terminal.
3. The method defined in claim 2 wherein the filtering step includes blocking the SMS message thereby preventing delivery of the SMS message to the subscriber terminal.
4. The method defined in claim 3 further comprising:
 - sending an denial message to the originating terminal indicating the SMS message was not delivered to the subscriber terminal.
5. The method defined in claim 4 wherein the denial message is an SMS message.

6. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the determining step comprises determining the originating terminal is authorized for sending an SMS message to the subscriber terminal.

7. The method defined in claim 6 wherein the filtering step includes delivering the SMS message to the subscriber terminal.

8. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the subscriber provisioned authorization criteria includes terminal identifiers and the determining step further comprises:
comparing a terminal identifier identifying the originating terminal with the subscriber-provided authorization criteria.

9. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the providing step further comprises:
providing the subscriber-provided authorization criteria via the Internet.

10. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the providing step further comprises:
providing the subscriber-provided authorization criteria via a mobile terminal.

11. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the authorization criteria is a terminal identifier.

12. The method defined in claim 11 wherein the terminal identifier is a phone number.

13. The method defined in claim 11 wherein the terminal identifier is a IP address.

14. A system for filtering an SMS message sent from an originating terminal to a subscriber terminal in a wireless communications network comprising:

means for providing subscriber-provided authorization criteria;

means for determining authorization of the originating terminal for sending the SMS message to the subscriber terminal using the authorization criteria; and

means for filtering the SMS message based on the authorization of the originating terminal.

15. The system defined in claim 14 wherein the means for determining authorization comprises a Home Location Register.

16. The system defined in claim 14 wherein means for filtering comprises

means for delivering the SMS message to the subscriber terminal when the originating terminal is authorized to send SMS messages to the subscriber terminal.

17. The system defined in claim 14 wherein means for filtering comprises

means for blocking delivery of the SMS message to the subscriber terminal when the originating terminal is not authorized to send SMS messages to the subscriber terminal.

18. The system defined in claim 14 further comprising means for sending an denial message to the originating terminal indicating the SMS message was not delivered to the subscriber terminal when the originating terminal is not authorized to send SMS messages to the subscriber terminal.